

By: **Ms. Whaley**.....

No:.....**6512-20**.....

**A RESOLUTION**

Declaring Racism a Public Health  
Crisis in the City of Dayton, Ohio,  
and Declaring an Emergency.

**WHEREAS**, Disproportionately higher rates of chronic diseases, mortality, poverty, economic distress, and the adverse effects of health outcomes for African Americans are widely recognized and documented yet continue to persist throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the death of a child before their first birthday is the most sensitive indicator of societal health, and black infants in Montgomery County are 2.5 times more likely to die in the first year of life than white infants; and

**WHEREAS**, African Americans' health outcomes are twice as poor as the rate for Caucasians when comparing the social determinants of health, including deaths due to chronic disease, infant mortality, home loan denial rates, percent with less than a high school diploma, low birth weight infants, child poverty rate, and unemployment rate; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has further shed a bright light on the health disparities in the African-American community; and

**WHEREAS**, racism is a social system with multiple dimensions; and

**WHEREAS**, almost all of the 400 years of black America's experiences were under slavery, Jim Crow, and discriminatory public laws and policies which allowed preferential opportunity to white people while at the same time subjecting people of color to hardship and disadvantage in all areas of life; and

**WHEREAS**, racism acts on systemic, institutional and interpersonal levels, all of which operate throughout time and across generations; and

**WHEREAS**, still now, racism--not race--causes disproportionality high rates of homelessness, incarceration, poor education, health outcomes, and economic hardship for African Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization defines "public health" as "the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society" and those efforts that "aim to provide conditions under which people can...be healthy, improve their health"; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dayton holds the responsibility to address racism which includes reshaping our discourse and agenda to enable us all to actively engage in racial justice work addressing racial disparities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dayton must address persistent disparities in health outcomes and the social, economic, educational and environmental inequities that contribute to them; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio must address persistent disparities in health outcomes and the social, economic, educational and environmental inequities that contribute to them; and

**WHEREAS**, It is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, and safety that this Resolution take effect at the earliest possible date; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DAYTON:**

**Section 1.** This Commission declares racism a public health crisis, and supports equitable policies to inform our public discourse on racism in the City of Dayton.

**Section 2.** That this Commission commits that the City of Dayton will adopt an anti-racist lens in creating new city policy.

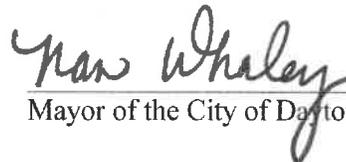
**Section 3.** This Commission will work alongside regional entities to create plans of action to address the following issues where racism negatively impacts the outcomes of black and brown residents of Dayton:

- a) Institutional Racism, Social norms
- b) Equitable Healthcare;
- c) Education;
- d) Economic Opportunities;
- e) Law enforcement;
- f) Local Criminal, Juvenile, Family Courts;
- g) Environmental Racism, Gentrification, Redlining;
- h) Food Insecurity and Access; and,
- i) Hate Crimes.

**Section 4.** For the reasons set forth in the preamble hereof, this Resolution is declared to be an emergency and shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION...**June 17**....., 2020

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR...**June 17**....., 2020

  
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Mayor of the City of Dayton, Ohio

ATTEST:

  
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Clerk of Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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City Attorney